

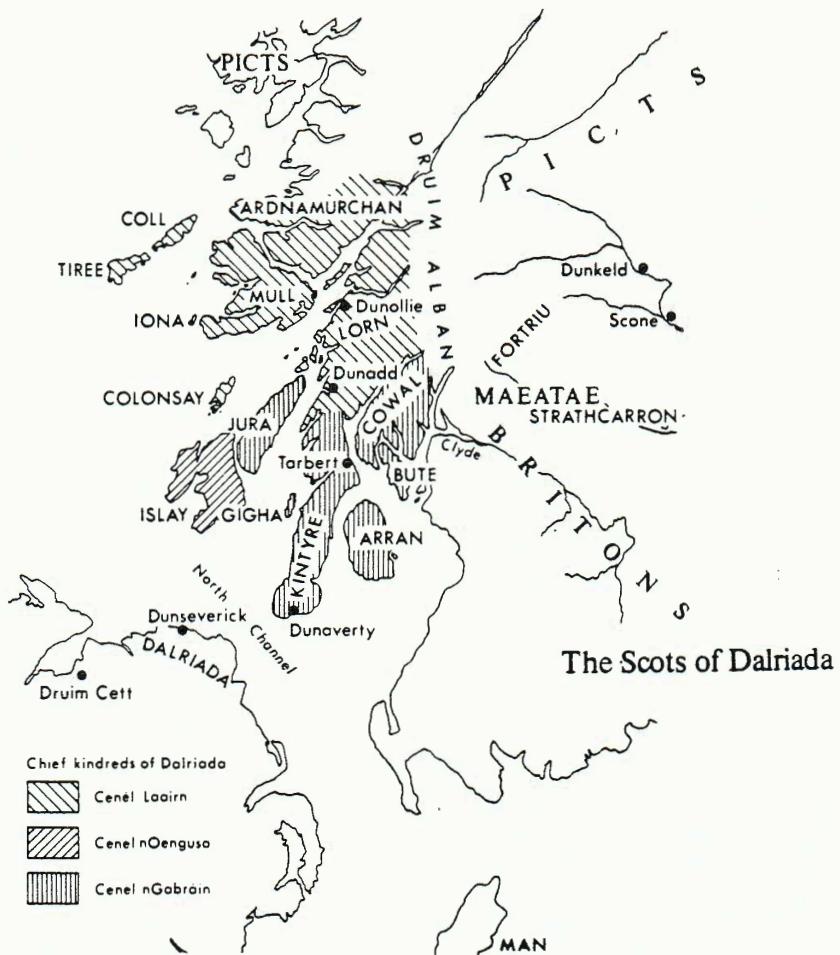
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McAllister Family

McALLISTER

Col. Alexander McAllister from Argyllshire, Scotland to 1736 Cumberland Co., NC		
m. 1st Mary McNeill (d. at sea-no ch.)	m. 2nd Flora, d/o Neill & Grissella (Campbell) McNeill	m. 3rd Jean Colvin b. 1740 "at sea"
1	1	1
1. Coll	2. Grissella	3. Janet
m. Janet Buie	m. John McKethan	m. Malcolm McNeill
Arch. b. 1776 (dy)	John	Coll
Alexander b. 1779	Flora	John
Flora b. 1782	Janet	Janet
Mary b. 1785	Christian	Flora
Neill b. 1788 (dy)	Isabella	Elizabeth Thamess
Janet b. 1792 (dy)	4. Neill	(no desc.)
Coll (d.y.)	(no proven data)	m. Elizabeth Thamess
		Cornelius (d.y.)
		Alexander
		Mary J. (J.Council)
Col. Ben Rogers of Marlboro Co., SC		
m. Margaret McAllister		
1		
1. Jane	2. Elizabeth	3. Flora
m. Bright Williamson	m. Julius Poellnitz	m. Robert Campbell
4. Sarah	5. Mary	
m. Needham Smith	(did not marry)	
Alexander McAllister	David McLean	John McKethan
m. Ann Wright	m. Flora McAllister	m. Miss McDougald
Coll (d.n.m.)	(McLean Chart)	Flora
Louisa (d.y.)		Alexander
James b. 1814	Duncan McLean	m. Marion Carruth
Mary	m. Mary McAllister	Grissella
Archibald (d.y.)	(McLean Chart)	Cyrus
Betsy Jane(d.y.)	Flora McKethan	Robert
John b. 1827	m. Niell Galbraith	Darius
Janet Ann b. 1835	Grissella	Daniel
Angus Phillips	Angus	John W.
m. Janet McKethan	m. Daniel Kyle(to TN)	Neill McLeran
Flora (d.n.m.)	Robert	m. Christian McKethan
James (d.n.m.)	John	Alfred Augustus
Stephen (d.n.m.)		Margaret
Eliza		Grissella
Grissella		
John W.		
(to GA)		
Ref: Gen. Rec. of the Desc. of Col. Alexander McAllister of Cumberland Co., NC		
by: Rev. D.S. McAllister 1900		
Located in the NC State Library, Raleigh		
1		
1. Margaret b. 1764	2. Alexander b. 1766	3. Hector b. 1768
m. Col. Ben Rogers	m. Rachel Smith	m. Marg. Armstrong
Ronald b. 1800 (dy)	Ronald b. 1800 (dy)	Alexander
Charity (d.n.m.)	Mary J.(J.Williams)	John
Alexander b. 1806	Alexander b. 1806	Thomas (no desc.)
David b.1808 (dy)	David b.1808 (dy)	m. Isabella McNeill
Hector b. 1811	Hector b. 1811	Duncan J.
Rachel (S.Whitaker)	Rachel (S.Whitaker)	Flora
Flora b.1815 (dnm)	Flora b.1815 (dnm)	Loveday (McKethan)
Marg.(J.McAllister)	Marg.(J.McAllister)	(r/o Cumberland/NC)
Edith b.1819 (dnm)		
7. Isabella	6. Catherine	
m. William Smith	m. James McNeil	
Flora A.(Richardson)	(McNeil Chart)	
William		
Jane		
Alexander COLVIN m. Margaret Robinson in Scotland		
1		
1. Jane b. 1740	2. Mary	3. John
m. Alex. McAllister	m. William Stewart	m. Ann De Rosset
4 & 5. died young	Mary (Spiller)	Jane(Ben Mills-AL)
	William (to AL)	Mary (Jno.Schull)
		Maj. John (m. 3X's)
William BRYAN of England m. Alice, d/o Lord Needham		
1		
Needham Bryan m. 1711 Annie Rambeau		
1		
Rachel b. 1723 NC	Col. David Smith	Elizabeth b. 1747
m. Wm. Whitfield	m.Charity Whitfield	m. Alexander Smith
Charity (D. Smith)	Samuel (later)	"Long" John
William	Edith (C. Bryan)	m.Farquhard Campbell
Bryan	William	James
Needham	Rachel	Robert
Elizabeth b. 1747	Jonathan	William (d.y.)
Rachel	Charity (A.Williams)	Samuel Smith
(Note: Alex. Smith, s/o John Smith from Eng. to Isle of Wight, VA)	Needham	m. Barbara Herring
	Whitfield	Bettie (C. Hopkins)
	Mary	Sidney
	Louis	Bryan
	Betty	Samuel
		Rachel(Jno.Everett)

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VI. THE MACALISTERS

Brian J.L. Berry

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2 *The MacAlisters*

Vol. III of *The Clan Donald* by Rev. A. MacDonald of Killearnan and Rev. A. MacDonald of Kiltarlity (Inverness: The Northern Counties Publ. Co., 1904) provides us with the long ancestry of the MacAlister family. Twenty-six generations are listed before we encounter Alexander, known as Alastair Mor, stirpes of the MacAlisters of Loup:

- I. Coll, or Colla Uathais, 6th in descent from Constantine Centimachus, who flourished A.D. 125. The son of Constantine--or Conn Ceud-chathach--was Art Aanfir, who built the celebrated palace of Maigh Chuarta. The son of Art of Cormac, the father of another Arthur whose son was Corbred or Cairbre Riada, founder of Dalreudini or Dalriadic race, and from whom the name Dalriad took its rise. Corbred was the father of Eothach Eochaiddh, or Ochains, whose son was Colla Uathais. From him the ancestors of the Macdonalds and other collateral races were termed Clann Cholla.
- II. Ethach or Eochai, latinized Ochais, was the son of Colla Uathais, and succeeded his father.
- III. Arthur, son of Ethach, carried down the line of succession. In one of the Annals he is called Criomthan. Some of them omit him altogether. But in Munro's MS. of 1549, and the Kilbride MS. of 1450, he is distinctly traced as the son of Ethach and the father of
- IV. Erc or Eric, the father of the three Dalriadic princes that finally established themselves in Argyll. He flourished in the latter part of the 5th century. He had three sons, Lorne, Fergus, and Angus, who are said to have received the blessings of Saint Patrick before they left their native shore for Caledonia. Lorne settled in the district which bears his name, Fergus in Kintyre, and Angus, the youngest, in Isla. The descendants of Lorne and those of Fergus by two grandsons, namely, Comgall and Gauran, sons of Domangart, claimed each in turn the Dalriadic sceptre, which caused much trouble and bloodshed. This state of things continued from the beginning of the 9th century for the period of 300 years, until Fergus's offspring by Gauran in the person of Alpin by his father's marriage with the daughter of Urquis, King of the Picts, united the whole of Scotland to the north of Strathclyde and Lothian, over which Kenneth his son ruled as one monarch. From the second Fergus, uncle to Alpin, sprang, as will be seen, the family afterwards distinguished as Lords of Argyll and the Isles.
- V. Fergus, one of the sons of Erc, or, as he is sometimes called, Fergus Mor. He commanded the Dalriads that settled in Argyll after the death of Lorne, his elder brother. His grandson acquired the district of Kintyre first allotted to Angus by his marriage with the daughter of Murdoch Angus's son. The three brothers, the sons of Erc, landed in Argyll in 466, and Erc is said to have died in 502.
- VI. Domangart, son of Fergus, held the sovereignty three years only, and died in 505. He was succeeded by Comgall, son of Domangart, who seems to have been the eldest son, but Gauran or Godfrey, his brother, succeeded him. Comgall died in 538.
- VII. Gauran wielded the sceptre over the Dalriads for the period of twenty-two years, and died in 560. Conall or Donal, the son of Comgall, succeeded his uncle, Gauran, and reigned sixteen years. His death, according to Tighearnac, took place in 574.
- VIII. Aldan or Hugh, the son of Gauran, next succeeded. He held the principality for thirty-eight years, and died in 606. He had a brother named Ewan, whose son was Rigullan.
- IX. Ethach or Eocha of the yellow locks, son of the above Aodh or Hugh, styled also Aidan of the golden-hilted sword, assumed the sovereignty over the Dalriads. He died in 623. He had a brother named Conan, and several sons, viz., Conan Cearr Bran, Domangart, Eochfinn, Arthur, and Failbhe.
- X. Donald Brec, the son of Ethach or Eocha Buidhe, took the sceptre neither as the immediate successor of his father, Ethach, nor of his elder brother, Conan Cearr, who was in power for three months only, but as immediate successor to Fearchar, son of Ewen, of the race of Lorne, who reigned for sixteen years. Donald died after reigning five years according to the Irish Annals, but fourteen according to the Albanic Duan. He was succeeded by Conal or Donal, son of Duncan, and grandson of Conal (already mentioned), son of Comgall, of the race of Fergus. Domgall, also of the race of Lorne, reigned over that race at the same time. Conal, surnamed Crandomna, died in 660. Donald Duinn, his son, succeeded, and Maolduinn, his brother, succeeded him. The former reigned thirteen and the latter seventeen years. They had a brother named Conan. Ferchar Fada reigned over Argyll after Donald Brec. He was of the Lorne race. He died in 697, after a reign of twenty-one years.
- XI. Domangart, the son of Donald Brec, did not succeed to the sovereignty. His brother, Catasaigh, also died young.
- XII. Ethach or Eocha Rineval, the son of Domangart, succeeded to the throne after the death of Fearchar Fada for the period of two years only. The son of Fearchar Fada took up the sceptre after his death, and Selvach, another son of the same, succeeded Ainceallach. Duncan, a descendant of Fergus, by Comgall, next succeeded. He died in 721.
- XIII. Ethach, the son of the above Ethach assumed the government in 726. He died in 733. During his son's minority, Muireadach, the son of Ainceallach, was sovereign prince for a short time, and was succeeded by Ewen, his son.
- XIV. Aidan or Hugh, the fair son of Each of the steeds, above mentioned, succeeded to power. He held it thirty years, and died in 778.

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- XV. **Fergus**, the son of Aidan or Aodhfin (fair-haired), next succeeded. His reign lasted only three years, and during his son's minority the sceptre was taken by Selvach 2nd of the race of Lorn, who held it for four-and-twenty years. Eocha Anfhuiinn (weak), the son of Aidan, next succeeded, and reigned thirty years, and after him Dungal, the son of the above Selvach, swayed the sceptre for seven years. Eocha or Ochais established the throne by his marriage with Urgusia, daughter of the Pictish sovereign, an alliance which enabled his grandson, Kenneth MacAlpin, afterwards to claim and acquire the Pictish sceptre in right of his grandmother. The descendants of Ethach were enabled to keep a firm hold of the Dalriadic sceptre to the exclusion of the offspring of Fergus, and also afforded them an opportunity of extending the whole of Caledonia without extirpating the Picts, as was at one time asserted by historians. Ethach was succeeded by Alpin, and Alpin by Kenneth, who removed the seat of his court from the western Coast of Argyll to the interior.

The descendants of Fergus who still remained in the West owned the territory of Argayl and some of the Isles, and there we find them when the public records or other collateral testimony happens to notice them. We have no means of doing more than naming these in the order of their descent, as shown by the oldest genealogies we have, and the account preserved in the Annals of Ulster. The son of Fergus who represented the Dalriadic power in the West was

- XVI. **Maine**, or, according to Munro, Eacime. His son was
- XVII. **Godfrey**, whose daughter was the wife of Kenneth MacAlpin, and who was known in his day as Toshach of the Isles. The son and successor of Godfrey was
- XVIII. **Nialgus**, or, according to some, Neill. His son was
- XIX. **Suibne**, according to Dean Munro Swyffine. His son was
- XX. **Mearrdha**, latinized Marcus, and Hailes in his Annals states that Kenneth, King of the Scots; Malcolm, King of the Cambri; and Marcus, King of the Isles, entered into a bond of treaty for mutual assistance and defence in the year 973. This shows that Lords of the Isles existed before Somerled's time. The son of Mearrdha was
- XXI. **Solaim, Solan, or Sella**, whose son and heir in the Lordship of Argyll and the Isles was
- XXII. **Gilledomnan**. It was during the life-time of this chief that the Western Isles of Scotland were completely subjugated by the piratical Norsemen. His daughter married Harold Gillies, King of Norway. Gilledomnan was succeeded by
- XXIII. **Gillebride or Gilbert**, who is mentioned by the oldest Highland genealogist as "rig eilean Shidir,"

that is, King of the Sudereys or Southern Isles. His daughter was the wife of Wymund MacHeth, Earl of Moray. He was called Gillebride na h-Uamh, from the fact that during a certain period of his depressed fortunes he lived in a cave in the district of Morvern. From Gillebride are said to have descended--besides the Clan Donald and Clan Dougall, etc.--the MacLachlans, MacEwin of Otter, and others. His son was Somerled rex insularum, or, as he is known in Highland tradition, Somhairle Mor MacGillebride.

- XXIV. **Somerled** is known to have married Ragnhildis, daughter of Olave the Black, King of Man, and had three sons--

1. **Reginald**, ancestor of the family, particularly designed "De Ile."
2. **Dugall**, who had three sons--(1) Dugall Scrag; (2) Duncan; (3) Uspac Hakon. Dugall, Scrag and Uspak Hacon died without issue. Duncan was succeeded by his son, King Ewin, or, as he is called in the Sagas, King John. This King John's line is said to have terminated in two heiresses, one of whom m. the King of Norway, and the other--Juliana--m. Alexander of Isla, son of Angus Mor.
3. **Angus**, the youngest son of Somerled, had a son, James, whose daughter, Jane, m. Alexander, eldest son of Walter Stewart of Scotland. Walter, son of Alexander and of Jane, of the house of Somerled, m. Marjory Bruce, whose son was Robert II. The descendants of Angus MacSomerled appear to be extinct in the male line.

He had another son, Gille Callum, killed at Renfrew, who may have been by a former wife. If this was so, the seanachies would be right in saying that Reginald was Somerled's oldest surviving son, while the Manx chronicle would be right in stating that Reginald was second in order of birth. Other sons are said to have been Gall MacGillin, the progenitor of the Clan Gall of the Glens, and Olave. He also had a daughter, Beatrice, who was Prioress of Iona.

- XXV. **Reginald**, son of Somerled, m. Fonia, granddaughter of Fergus, Prince of Galloway. By this lady he had--
 1. **Donald**, from whom the Clan Donald.
 2. **Roderick**, and, according to some genealogists,
 3. **Dugall**.
 4. A daughter said to have married Allan of Galloway.

- XXVI. **Donald**, son of Reginald, and progenitor of the Clan Donald, carried on the line of the Kings of Innsegall. He m.a daughter of Walter Stewart of Scotland, and had two sons, who appear on record--
 1. **Angus Mor**, ancestor of the later Lords of the Isles.
 2. **Alexander**, known as Alastair Mor.

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4 *The MacAlisters*

The MacAlisters of Loup owe their origin genealogically to Alexander, younger son of Donald (not, as some have presumed to Alexander, son of Angus Mor, the deposed Lord of the Isles, all of sons settled in Ireland). Their descent is traced by the MacDonalds as:

- I. **Alexander**, younger son of Donald, was the progenitor of the Clan Allister. He appears in the Highland and Irish genealogies as Alastair Mor, whereby he is distinguished from his nephew and contemporary Alastair Og. According to the *Seanachies* he had at least five sons--
 1. Donald.
 2. Godfrey.
 3. Duncan.
 4. John.
 5. Hector. Alexander was succeeded by
- II. **Donald**, who in 1291 swore fealty to Edward I. In this act of homage there was associated with him
- III. **Alexander**, his son and successor. He and his descendants appear to have maintained a connection with their native Argyll, as is evidenced by the glimpse we get of the son and successor of Alexander, namely,
- IV. **Ranald MacAlexander**, who crosses to Ireland in 1366 to fight in the chronic wars of Ulster at that time raging between Donald and Neil O'Neill. For the next three generations the succession seems obscure, but with the aid of a genealogical tree we infer the succession to have been in this wise--Ranald MacAlexander was succeeded by--
- V. **Alexander**, who flourished c.1400. He was succeeded by
- VI. **John Dubh**, from whom the tribe seem to have acquired the patronymic *Clann Eoin duibh*. As the oldest son of Alastair Og, the forfeited Lord of the Isles, was also John Dubh, and his descendants were called *Clann Eoin duibh*, great confusion has naturally arisen between the two families. John Dubh was succeeded by
- VII. **Charles**, who appears on record in 1481 as Steward of Kintyre. He was succeeded by
- VIII. **Angus MacEoin duibh**. He is mentioned in the *Register of the Privy Seal* A.D. 1515. He was succeeded by his son
- IX. **Alexander**, Laird of Loup, who on 16th November, 1540, received a remission for treasonably abiding from the army of Solway. He was succeeded by his son
- X. **John**, who in the winter of 1571-2 was slain in the Irish wars. The entry in the *State Papers* is as follows: -- "Owen McOwen duffe McAstrain, called the Lair of Loop, was slain." He was succeeded by his brother
- XI. **Hector**, of whom little is known beyond the fact of his succession. He does not appear to have survived his brother John for more than a year or two, for we find his son and successor
- XII. **Alexander** obtaining a charter in 1573 of the lands of Loup and others, wherein he is designated as Alexander M'Eachine, lawful son of the deceased Hector MacAllister of Loup. Alexander having died
- XIII. without issue, was succeeded by Godfrey, his brother. He obtained a charter for his lands in 1591. A daughter of his, Fynvola by name, is said to have married Hector, 4th Maclean of Coll. Godfrey was succeeded by his son,
- XIV. **Hector**, who, in 1617, obtained a charter of the lands of Loup, and others, and is therein designated as Hector M'Gorry Vic Eachin Vic Alister Vic Ean Duibh. He m. Margaret, a daughter of Colin Campbell of Kilberry, 1620, and was succeeded by his son,
- XV. **Godfrey**, who married a daughter of Sir Robert Montgomery of Skelmorlie, and was succeeded by his son,
- XVI. **Alexander**. He, in 1698, obtained a charter as heir to his grandfather. He is said to have been a staunch supporter of the Stewart cause at the time of the Revolution of 1689, and to have been present at the battles of Killiecrankie and the Boyne. He m. Grace, daughter of Sir James Campbell of Auchinbreck, by whom he had issue--
 1. Hector, his heir.
 2. Charles, who succeeded his brother.
 3. Duncan, who settled in Holland in 1717. This Duncan m. Johanna, daughter of Arnold Leuchenmaker Burgaff at Mentis. His oldest son, Robert, attained the rank of General in the Dutch service, and was commandant of the Scots Brigade. He left a large family, and his descendants are still settled in Holland.
- XVII. **Hector** m. Isabell, daughter of Thomson of Ballygabbin, Co. Antrim, but, dying without issue, was succeeded by his brother,
- XVIII. **Charles**, who m. Christina, daughter of Lamont of Lamont, in Argyllshire. By her he had two sons--Angus, his heir, and Archibald, who for many years commanded the 35th Regiment. His eldest son was lieut.-colonel of the Ceylon Rifle Regiment.
- XIX. **Angus** m. his cousin, Jane, daughter of John Macdonald of Ardnacroish by Grace, his wife, daughter of Godfrey MacAllister of Loup. This lady (Jane Macdonald) was niece of Macdonald of Kingsburgh, in Skye. At his decease, in 1796, Angus MacAllister of Loup left one son and three daughters--
 1. Charles, his heir.
 2. Jeanne of "Jackie" m. John Macallister of Ballinakill; issue, four sons, two daughters.
 a. Ann McNeill d. young.
 b. Angus, Laird of Ballinakill, who m. Frances Byng, with issue a daughter Charlotte Fanny.
 c. Robert Stewart.
 d. John.
 e. Grace.
 f. Matthew.
 g. Margaret.
 h. Jane.
 3. Grace, m. Major Alexander of Boydstown; issue, 1 son, 2 daughters.
 4. Flora, m. a M'Donald; died without issue.
- XX. **Charles**, a major in the Argyllshire Militia, b. 1765, m. Jessie, daughter and heiress of William Somerville of Kennox, Ayr. He died in 1847, leaving issue--

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1. Charles, his heir.
 2. James, of Chapelton; unmarried.
 3. Williamina, who d. unmarried.
 4. Jane, who d. unmarried.
- XXI. Charles, a major in the Aryshire Rifle Militia, b. in 1797, succeeded his father in 1847, m. in 1828 Mary Adeline, only daughter of Edward Lyon, lieut. R.N., with issue--
1. Charles, his successor.
 2. Edward, d. 1834.
 3. James, d. 1857.
 4. Mary, who married Colonel Hay Boyd of Townsend, Ayr, with issue.
 5. Anna Catherine, d. 1855.
 6. Jessie, d. 1845.
- XXII. Charles, b. 1830. He entered the army in 1846, and became an Ensign in the 46th Regiment. In 1854 he became Captain. He served at the Siege of Sebastopol, for which he received medal and clasp, and 5th class of the Medjidie. He was on the Staff of the Forces in Balaklava as junior Provost Marshal. He m. in 1867 Williamina Pollok, daughter of William P. Morris, Esq. of Craig, Ayr, and had by her, who died in 1872--
1. Charles Godfrey.
 2. Henry.
 3. Janet.
 4. Mary.
 5. Violet, m. Rev. Alex. Copland, Episcopal minister at Ardrossan.
- Charles MacAlister died at Dunskaig, Ayr, Jan. 17, 1903.

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6 *The MacAlisters*

In *Scottish Clan and Tartans* (New York: Crescent Books, 1987), Neil Grant says this about the MacAlisters:

The MacAlisters of Loup descended from Alasdair, younger son of Donald of Islay, grandson of the mighty Somerled. They were thus a branch of Clan Donald--the senior branch in fact--though some of the MacAlisters were later vassals of the Campbell earls of Argyll and survived Campbell hegemony in their homelands with more success than most.

Alasdair Mór died in battle against his cousin, the MacDougall Lord of Lorne, in 1299 and his descendants settled mainly in Kintyre. Charles MacAlister was appointed steward of Kintyre by King James III in 1481; his headquarters were at Dunaverty Castle. By about this time branches of the MacAlisters were also settling in Arran, where they were to give bonds of manrent to the Hamiltons, and in Bute.

Charles's son was known as 'John of the Lowb', or 'Loup', from a Gaelic word meaning bend or curve and apparently referring to the shape of the coastline of MacAlister territory. Subsequent chiefs have retained this appellation and the Gaelic title Mac Eoin Duibh (son of Black John).

The MacAlisters of Tarbert belonged to a cadet branch of the MacAlisters of Loup. They became hereditary constables of the royal castle of Tarbert, on behalf of the earls of Argyll, hereditary keepers. A 'tarbert' is a place where a boat can be dragged overland from one shore to another (in this case the neck of land linking Kintyre and Knapdale), and it was by this trick that King Magnus Barefoot of Norway in 1093 defined the fertile and therefore desirable peninsula of Kintyre as an island--and thus part of Norway's possessions, not Scotland's. It consequently passed into the domain of the lord of the Isles until the Campbells took over in the 17th century.

Another branch of the clan, who took the name Alexander (equivalent to Alasdair), settled at Menstrie in Clackmannanshire, as vassals of the Earl of Argyll, in the 16th century. In 1603 William Alexander of Menstrie (1567-1640), poet and courtier, accompanied King James VI to London. He was acknowledged as chief of the clan by the MacAlisters of Tarbert, presumably impressed by these honours, but not by the MacAlisters of Loup.

Another family of Alexanders, claiming descent from the house of Menstrie, settled in Ireland in the 17th century and became earls of Caledon. Their most famous descendant was Field Marshal Lord Alexander of Tunis.

The MacAlisters of Loup, the senior house, were supporters of the royal house of Stewart. Alexander, eight of Loup, fought at Killiecrankie with Bonnie Dundee and took part in King James VII/II's ill-fated campaign in Ireland which ended with the battle of the Boyne (1690). His brother, who succeeded after the early death of his son, married the daughter of Lamont of that ilk.

In the late 18th century their grandson made a more fortunate marriage than this, to Janet Somerville, an heiress who brought him the estate of Kennox in Ayrshire. Thereafter the chiefs of Clan MacAlister, styled MacAlister of Loup and

Kennox, maintained their seat in Kennox.

The Tarbert family went bankrupt in 1745, losing their lands and castle, but they survived to produce a famous principal of Glasgow University, Sir Donald Macalister of Tarbert (1854-1934).

It remains to establish the precise descent of Margaret MacAlister [29].

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Byng	Godfrey (Gauran) 2	Jeanne 4	Dugall 3
Frances 4	Grant	Jessie 4, 5	Selvach 2
Callum	Neil 6	John 4	Selvach II
Gille 3	Hakon	Margaret 4	Selvach 3
Campbell	Uspac 3	Mary 5	Solaim (Solan) 3
Colin 4	Hector 4	Matthew 4	Somerville
Grace 4	John 4	Robert Stewart 4	Janet 6
James 4	Kenneth	Violet 5	Jessie 4
Margaret 4	King of the Scots 3	MacAlpin	William 4
Catasaidh 2	King Ewin 3	Kenneth 3	Stewart
Centimachus	King James III 6	MacDonald	Alexander 3
Constantine 2	King James VI 6	A. 2	Jane 3
Charles	King James VII/II 6	Jane 4	Walter 3
Steward of Kintyre 4	King John 3	John 4	Suibne (Swyffine) 3
Colla Uathais (Coll) 2	King Magnus Barefoot	MacGillebhride	Urgusia 3
Comgall 2	6	Somhairle Mor 3	
Conal (Donal) 2	Lorne 2	MacHeth	
Conall (Donal) 2	Lyon	Wymund 3	
Conan 2	Edward 5	MacGyllin	
Copland	Mary Adeline 5	Gall 3	
Alex. 5	M'Donald	MacSomered	
Crandomna	Flora 4	Angus 3	
Conal 2	M'Eachine	Maine (Eacime) 3	
Domangart 2	Alexander 4	Malcolm	
Donald 4	M'Gorry	King of the Cambri 3	

Letters To The Editor

"The Yellow Rose of Schoona"

Dear Clyde:

The articles in the May 11 and May 18, 1989 issues of the *Examiner* regarding "The Yellow Rose of Schoona" have been of great interest to me. I still have the article that you mentioned was published in the paper in 1945, but this one had additional information since you combined the accounts of Dr. Evans and Col. Stephens.

My grandmother was Eula McAllister Lann, the wife of Walter Lann, and daughter of James D. McAllister and Ulysses McAllister, the owner of Bombazelle McAllister and my great, great grandfather. By the way, in our family we always used the spelling of the name -McAllister. James D. McAllister was in the Civil War and contracted tuberculosis and died very young leaving Marianna with two small children, John Ulysses McAllister and Eula McAllister. Marianna later married a Mr. Jordan, thus the name Marianna McAllister Jordan. You may remember my great aunt "Aunt Annie Jordan" and my great uncles (her brothers) Uncle Dan who worked nearly all his life at the grist mill and Uncle Charley Jordan - we all lived in the old house on Monroe Street. James McAllister bought the home from a Methodist minister who had bought the land from the Indians named James and who had helped him build it. The beams in the house were hand hewn by the Indians and the happiest days of my life were spent right there in that old house. Had I had anything to say it would probably still be there as a museum or something to preserve it for history. It was built in 1840.

It was at Aunt Annie's knee that I learned about all my forebears -oh that I could remember all that she related to me!

Because I am the last link representing the McAllisters of our clan, I am intrigued that someone requested you reprint this account and am wondering if they are also linked. Of course, I have lots of information regarding the Lann side but very little of the McAllister side. If you know of anyone else of this lineage I would appreciate your either letting me know how I could get in touch with them or by letting them know I am interested and give them my address so they can get in touch with me at their convenience.

Thank you for contributing so many interesting and worthy articles in the paper and for your help in locating Mrs. Willie West for me and now this.

Allie M. Lann Caster

Wichita, Kansas

Editors Note: The person who requested that I run the article on Bombazelle McAllister is Monette Murphree Young, originally from Calhoun County and now living in Jackson. She has no connection with the McAllister family as far as I know, her interest was in the story which she found fascinating and the fact that the story has Aberdeen and Calhoun County connections.

Aberdeen Examiner 5/25/1889

GENEALOGY COLLECTION
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Bombazelle McAlister: "The Yellow Rose of Schoona"

Every era in history produces its memorable people, people who stand out from the rest, people who are bolder, or braver, or people who merely by chance do something that causes them to be remembered. In many, perhaps most, cases the story of these people is well known and constantly repeated for many, many years and then eventually forgotten because the story is never written, never recorded. In some cases such a story is heard by an author and is made into a book that endures time, in other cases such a story is recorded in the pages of a newspaper. Occasionally, the story is so good that the newspaper reprints the story over and over so that each new generation of readers are able to know the story and enjoy it.

Such is the story of Bombazelle McAlister, "The Yellow Rose of Schoona."

The story of "The Yellow Rose of Schoona," was first printed in the pages of *The Calhoun County Monitor* during the early years of that paper's existence. It was one of a series of stories (all based on facts) about events which happened when the white settlers were just beginning to settle the hills and valleys of Calhoun County, around 1850. These stories appeared in a column entitled "The Rambler," written by Col. M.D.L. Stephens in 1903 and "The Yellow Rose of Schoona" is the best known of all his stories. The story later appeared in the *Aberdeen Examiner* in a column known as "Mother Monroe" written by Dr. W.A. Evans.

Dr. Evans, according to his column had been asked to research the facts concerning Bombazelle McAlister. He wrote: "The story, 'The Yellow Rose of Schoona,' written by Colonel M.D.L. Stephens, and published in the Calhoun Monitor some 40 years ago, is one that is exceedingly interesting, particularly so, when after investigation one finds so much of truth to back up this strange story."

"Ex-Governor Dennis Murphree has asked me to give for publication some of the facts concerning this slave woman, which I have been able to ascertain from old records here in Monroe County, and from information gathered

North Mississippi.

"Fortson sold his Georgia property and moved his family and furniture overland all the long journey from Georgia to Northeast Mississippi in wagons and carriages. He brought all his many slaves along with him. Among them was the almost white child, Bombazelle.

"Arriving in what is now Monroe County, he bought a big plantation on the Squattonchee Creek, west of Aberdeen, Miss., in the prairies. This was land which had just been ceded to the government by the Chickasaw Indians under the Pontotoc treaty. The Indians had already moved away to the Indian Territory.

"For a number of years the Fortson family lived happily and prosperously on the new and rich Mississippi farm near Aberdeen. They belonged to the Aberdeen Baptist Church, took a leading part in all social affairs and were well off financially.

"During this period one of the Fortson daughters had been growing up to young womanhood, and, as was the custom in those days, a slave girl about her own age had been given to her to be her own companion and body servant. This girl was in constant attendance on her young mistress, played the same games with her, learned largely the same lessons taught the young mistress, and, in fact, was constantly associated with her.

"The name of the slave girl companion, was 'Bombazelle,' and by the time her mistress had arrived at the age of maturity, Bombazelle, too, was a grown young woman, an expert seamstress, well educated, good looking and very intelligent.

"About the same time that the Fortson family arrived in Aberdeen another new family also located there. This family was named McAlister, and they were of the same type, character and kind of people as the Fortsons.

"The McAlisters came to Aberdeen from Greene County, Alabama, and there were three young boys in the family, one of whom was named Ulysees. This young son, Ulysees, growing up as a near neighbor to the Fortsons, soon became enamored of the young

at this place a postoffice called Banner), came around and stood in the door. Snow and sleet were falling thick and fast and the cold north wind howled through the towering pines and drifted snow against the rude fences. All nature seemed at war - and the howling storm quelled the spirit of these pioneers, who were acquainted with trouble and knew danger and privations.

"The coldest day I ever felt," said Bob. "Everything outside is freezing."

While the men were buttoning up their coats, preparatory to braving the storm en route to their homes, Bob looked eastward along the road and saw a lone woman trudging through the snow storm, coming in the direction of the store. She soon appeared at the door and asked permission to warm at the fire. The gentlemen gallantly gave way and tendered her a seat near the stove.

"Bad weather to be out," remarked McCord, the merchant. "Quite unpleasant," replied the woman in a soft, sweet voice.

She was well and comfortably clad, and had in her hand a well filled grip. She was tall and well formed, with a handsome figure and soft, appealing eyes. Her hair was long, dark and wavy, and her

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The Yellow Rose of Schoona"

skin was a soft yellow - not quite as dark as the Indian. Her features were animated and her countenance sparkled with every change of expression. Her step, quick and elastic; voice soft and musical; her language pure and faultless English, and her age about 22 years.

The men soon started for home through the drifting storm, and left McCord, Brown and Sid Brantley and the woman still clustered about the stove. The able, big-hearted Brantley asked the woman how it happened that she was caught out in the storm, and where she was going in all this bad weather.

After some hesitation, she answered in a low, musical voice, "I am part Indian and I am making my way to the Indian Nation, where my tribe, the Chickasaws, went in 1836. I was then a small girl, living with my grandmother. My mother, a Chickasaw, died when I was a baby. My father, a white man, went with the tribe. My

grandmother, being very old, was left with me. After grandmother died, I was taken in by a nice family of whites, who gave me a home, taught me the art of dressmaking and educated me. But I could not forget my brothers and sisters in the Indian Nation, and, at last resolved, at every hazard, to make my way to them. I have no money or friends that I can call upon for assistance, so I am trying to make my way afoot."

Her simple story touched Mr. Brantley's heart, and he cordially invited her to his nearby home. She, with some hesitation, accepted his generous invitation and accompanied him home, where she remained until the storm was over.

In conversation, on the way home, Brantley asked her name. She modestly answered, "Bombazelle McAlister." She was introduced to the family and assured that she could make her home with them until the weather

settled. She was assigned a room with Brantley's oldest daughter.

The next day was still cold and blustery, and the ladies were confined to their rooms. The stranger soon became familiar with the family.

Next week we will learn the conclusion of the fascinating story of Bombazelle McAlister, "The Yellow Rose of Schoona" a true story, a literary gem clothed in the beautiful language of Colonel M.D.L. Stephens, "The Rambler" of Calhoun county.

At the time Aberdeen was the second largest town in Mississippi and by virtue of being a port town and a trade center was a very sophisticated town, a good place to live even for a slave.

Pascagoula Public Library
Local History & Genealogical Dept.
McAllister Family

Bombazelle's story and sent me a copy of the columns written by both Col. Stephens and Dr. Evans. I was aware of the story, or at least the bare facts of the story, but had never gone to the trouble to search the back issues of the *Examiner* for the complete story. I appreciate her interest and the trouble she went to to see that we in Aberdeen can once again read the story of "The Yellow Rose of Schoona."

This is the story of Bombazelle McAlister who lived in Aberdeen before the Civil War. Bombazelle McAlister's story was probably written after her death or if she was still alive at the time it was first published in the pages of the "Calhoun Monitor," she was probably unaware of it. It is very probable that she never knew that she had become to be known as "The Yellow Rose of Schoona," or that her poignant story would become a classic to be printed and reprinted and to be read with interest by each new generation of Calhoun County and Monroe County people.

Bombazelle McAlister was a slave who lived in pre-Civil War Aberdeen. At the time Aberdeen was the second largest town in Mississippi and by virtue of being a port town and a trade center was a very cultured and sophisticated town, a good place to live even for a slave. As a slave she was more fortunate than most. Because she was intelligent and beautiful, she was chosen early in her life to be the companion and body servant to the beloved daughter of her owner who was a wealthy man in what at the time was one of the wealthiest towns in Mississippi. As a result, it has to be assumed that she led a pampered life in comparison to most slaves.

Dr. Evans wrote:

"This story begins in the State of Georgia, somewhere around 1830.

"On a huge plantation there, owned by the rich and intelligent Fortson family and located near Athens, Ga., there were many slaves.

"One of these slave women gave birth to a girl baby, and gave her the name Bombazelle. This baby was quite light in color - almost white, and her hair was straight and soft.

"About six years later the Fortsons decided to move from the older and more worn lands of Georgia to the newly opened and very fertile, black prairie lands of

pomp and ceremony of those far off and glamorous days of the old South.

"When young Miss Fortson became Mrs. Ulysees McAlister and went to live with her new husband, she took with her all her own belongings, and very naturally, as a part of her personal property, she took her maid, Bombazelle.

"The young couple lived in a beautiful home located on the corner of West Commerce and North Franklin Streets. They belonged to the Baptist Church, stood well socially, and were leaders in the civic life of the city. They raised a fine family.

"Ulysees proved an excellent farmer, owned more and more plantations, in fact, exceeded his brothers and father. Naturally, he added more and more slaves to his already extensive holdings.

"The elder Mrs. Fortson had trained Bombazelle to be an expert seamstress, and this, with her good manners, quiet dignity and good looks made her quite a valuable asset to the McAlister household.

"However, with all her good points, Bombazelle had one that was, in the eyes of her owners, a very bad one. She was a constant "run-a-way." She would not stay at home and several times slipped away only to be sought out, caught and brought back home again. And all of this effort was not only expensive, but very unsatisfactory and displeasing to the McAlister clan.

"In the winter of 1852 the McAlister household awoke one morning to find that once again, Bombazelle was missing.

And thus begins her real story, the story of the young lady immortalized as "The Yellow Rose of Schoona."

The Yellow Rose of Schoona

By Colonel M.D.L. Stephens
Written in Calhoun County in

1903

Part One of Two Parts

In the cold, dreary winter of 1852, just after the organization of Calhoun County, quite a number of the citizens of Spring and Brushy Creeks were sitting in a rude log cabin by the roadside, where John McCord kept a store, lightly stocked with the necessities of life, discussing the new county and squiring tobacco on the old, rickety stove.

Bob Brown, the Postmaster, (for there had recently been established